

Lattice Grids and Prisms are Antimagic

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Abstract

An *antimagic labeling* of a finite undirected simple graph with m edges and n vertices is a bijection from the set of edges to the integers $1, \dots, m$ such that all n vertex sums are pairwise distinct, where a vertex sum is the sum of labels of all edges incident with the same vertex. A graph is called *antimagic* if it has an antimagic labeling. In 1990, Hartsfield and Ringel conjectured that every connected graph, but K_2 , is antimagic. In 2004, N. Alon et al showed that this conjecture is true for n -vertex graphs with minimum degree $\Omega(\log n)$. They also proved that complete partite graphs (other than K_2) and n -vertex graphs with maximum degree at least $n - 2$ are antimagic. Recently, Wang showed that the toroidal grids (the Cartesian products of two or more cycles) are antimagic. Two open problems left in Wang's paper are about the antimagicness of lattice grid graphs and prism graphs, which are the Cartesian products of two paths, and of a cycle and a path, respectively. In this article, we prove that these two classes of graphs are antimagic, by constructing such antimagic labelings.

Keywords: Antimagic; Labeling; Lattice grid; Prism

1 Introduction

All graphs in this paper are finite, undirected and simple. In 1990, Hartsfield and Ringel [3] introduced the concept of *antimagic* graph. An *antimagic labeling* of a graph with m edges and n vertices is a bijection from the set of edges to the integers $1, \dots, m$ such that all n vertex sums are pairwise distinct, where a vertex sum is the sum of labels of all edges incident with that vertex. A graph is called antimagic if it has an antimagic labeling. Hartsfield and Ringel showed that paths $P_n (n \geq 3)$, cycles, wheels, and complete graphs $K_n (n \geq 3)$ are antimagic. They conjectured that all trees except K_2 are antimagic. Moreover, all connected graphs except K_2 are antimagic. These two conjectures are unsettled. In 2004, Alon et al [1] showed that the latter conjecture is true for all graphs with n vertices and minimum degree $\Omega(\log n)$. They also proved that a graph G with $n (\geq 4)$ vertices and maximum degree $\Delta(G) \geq n - 2$ is antimagic, and all complete partite graphs except K_2 are antimagic. In [5], Wang showed that the toroidal grids (the Cartesian products of two cycles) are antimagic, the author also proved that all Cartesian products of an antimagic k -regular graph ($k > 1$) and a cycle (consequently Cartesian products of more than two cycles) are antimagic. Two open problems left in [5] are about the antimagicness of lattice grid graphs and prism graphs, which are the Cartesian products of two paths, and of a cycle and a path, respectively.

In this paper, we prove that these two classes of graphs are antimagic, by constructing such antimagic labelings. In contrast to toroidal grids, lattices and prisms have less symmetry (more local structures), we will incorporate new strategies in our labeling. Our main results are the following two theorems, which are proved in Section 3 and Section 4, respectively.

Theorem 1.1 *All lattice grid graphs $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$ are antimagic, for integers $m, n \geq 1$.*

Theorem 1.2 *All prism graphs $C[m] \times P[n+1]$ are antimagic, for integers $m \geq 3, n \geq 1$.*

For more results, open problems and conjectures on antimagic graphs and various graph labeling problems, please see [2, 4].

2 Preliminaries

The *Cartesian product* $G_1 \times G_2$ of two graphs $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ is a graph with vertex set $V_1 \times V_2$, and (u_1, u_2) is adjacent to (v_1, v_2) in $G_1 \times G_2$ if and only if $u_1 = v_1$ and $u_2 v_2 \in E_2$, or, $u_2 = v_2$ and $u_1 v_1 \in E_1$. The Cartesian product of two paths is a lattice grid graph, and the Cartesian product of a path and a cycle is a prism grid graph.

Before proving our main results, we first describe antimagic labeling on paths and cycles respectively (see Figure 1). The labeling methods are the same as in [5], here we rephrase them for the sake of completeness.

Lemma 2.1 *All paths $P[m+1]$ are antimagic for integers $m \geq 2$.*

Proof: Suppose the vertex set is $\{v_1, \dots, v_{m+1}\}$ and the edge set is arranged to be $\{v_i v_{i+2} | i = 1, \dots, m-1\} \cup \{v_m v_{m+1}\}$. The following labeling $f(v_i v_{i+2}) = i$, for $1 \leq i \leq m-1$, and $f(v_m v_{m+1}) = m$ is antimagic, since we have

$$f^+(v_i) = \begin{cases} i & i = 1, 2; \\ 2i - 2 & i = 3, \dots, m; \\ 2m - 1 & i = m + 1. \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$f^+(v_1) < f^+(v_2) < \dots < f^+(v_{m+1})$$

■

Lemma 2.2 *All cycles $C[m]$ are antimagic for integers $m \geq 3$.*

Proof: Suppose the vertex set is $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ and the edge set is arranged to be $\{v_1 v_2\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+2} | i = 1, \dots, m-2\} \cup \{v_{m-1} v_m\}$. The following labeling $f(v_1 v_2) = 1$, $f(v_i v_{i+2}) = i + 1$, for $1 \leq i \leq m-2$, and $f(v_{m-1} v_m) = m$ is antimagic, since we have

$$f^+(v_i) = \begin{cases} 3 & i = 1; \\ 2i & i = 2, \dots, m-1; \\ 2m - 1 & i = m. \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$f^+(v_1) < f^+(v_2) < \dots < f^+(v_m)$$

■

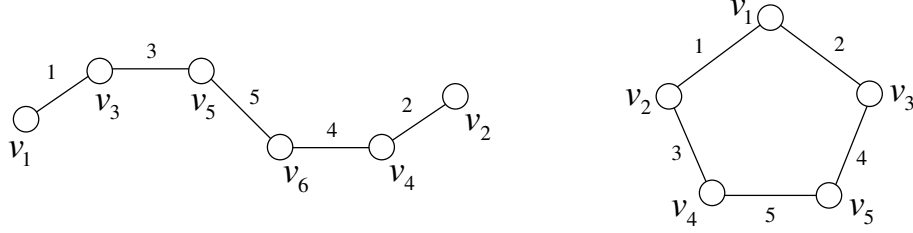


Fig. 1. Antimagic labeling of $P[n+1]$ and $C[m]$, for $n = 5, m = 5$

3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Let $f : E(P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, 2mn+m+n\}$ be an edge labeling of $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$, and denote the induced sum at vertex (u, v) by $f^+(u, v) = \sum f((u, v), (y, z))$, where the sum runs over all vertices (y, z) adjacent to (u, v) in $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$. To prove Theorem 1.1, first, we construct a labeling that is antimagic on product graphs of two paths $P_1[m+1]$ and $P_2[n+1]$, for $n \geq m \geq 2$. Then, we give an antimagic labeling of graphs $P_1[2] \times P_2[n+1]$, for $n \geq 1$.

3.1 $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$ is Antimagic, for $n \geq m \geq 2$

Assume that $P_1[m+1]$ has edge set $\{u_i u_{i+2} | i = 1, \dots, m-1\} \cup \{u_m u_{m+1}\}$, and $P_2[n+1]$ has edge set $\{v_i v_{i+1} | i = 1, \dots, n\}$. We will construct an antimagic labeling of $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$ for $n \geq m \geq 2$, which contains two phases.

Phase 1: For the $mn + m$ edges contained in copies of $P_1[m+1]$ component (i.e., the edges $((u_i, v_j), (u_{i+2}, v_j))$ and $((u_m, v_j), (u_{m+1}, v_j))$, for $1 \leq i \leq m-1, 1 \leq j \leq n+1$), label them with even numbers $2, 4, \dots, 2mn + 2m$ (notice $n \geq m$).

Specifically, first label the edges of $P_1[m+1]$ with U and R such that $u_1 u_3$ is labeled with U , and two edges are labeled with different letters if they are incident to a same vertex. Obviously, there is one unique such labeling. For each edge $u_i u_j \in E(P_1[m+1])$ labeled with U , label the edges $((u_i, v_1), (u_j, v_1)), ((u_i, v_2), (u_j, v_2)), \dots, ((u_i, v_{n+1}), (u_j, v_{n+1}))$ in usual order; for each edge $u_i u_j \in E(P_1[m+1])$ labeled with R , label the edges $((u_i, v_1), (u_j, v_1)), ((u_i, v_2), (u_j, v_2)), \dots, ((u_i, v_{n+1}), (u_j, v_{n+1}))$ in reversed order, and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &2, 4, \dots, 2n+2, \quad (\text{labels for } ((u_1, v_i), (u_3, v_i)), i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1) \\
 &2n+4, 2n+6, \dots, 4n+4, \quad (\text{labels for } ((u_2, v_i), (u_4, v_i)), i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1) \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 &2mn+2m-2n, \dots, 2mn+2m, \quad (\text{labels for } ((u_m, v_i), (u_{m+1}, v_i)), i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Phase 2: Denote by $A : a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_s$ the sequence of all odd numbers in $\{1, 2, \dots, 2mn+m+n\}$, and denote by $B : b_1 < \dots < b_t$ the sequence of all even numbers in $\{2mn+2m+1, \dots, 2mn+m+n\}$, i.e., the even numbers that are not used in Phase 1. Notice that $t \leq \frac{1}{2}(2mn+m+n) - (mn+m) = \frac{1}{2}(n-m)$. We merge A and B into a sequence $C : a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{s-t}, b_1, a_{s-t+1}, b_2, \dots, b_t, a_s$ of $s+t$ terms ($s+t = mn+n$), and denote the sequence C by $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{mn+n}$, which are the labels for the other $mn+n$ edges contained in copies of $P_2[n+1]$ component.

For the vertices of degree 4, clearly, $f_1^+(u_i, v_2) = f_1^+(u_i, v_3) = \dots = f_1^+(u_i, v_n)$ for $i = 3, \dots, m+1$. Moreover, $f_1^+(u_3, v_2) < f_1^+(u_4, v_2) < \dots < f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_2)$ since $f((u_1, v_2), (u_3, v_2)) < f((u_2, v_2), (u_4, v_2)) < \dots < f((u_{m-1}, v_2), (u_{m+1}, v_2)) < f((u_m, v_2), (u_{m+1}, v_2))$. It follows that

On the other hand, since $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_{mn+n-2t}$, we have that

Therefore,

All the above sums are even because each of them contains exactly two odd labels.

Proof: Let us first consider the $2m+2$ sums $f^+(u_1, v_1), f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}), f^+(u_2, v_1), f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}), \dots, f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1), f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$, there are two natural cases:

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labeling, we have $f_1^+(u_1, v_1) \leq f_1^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) \leq f_1^+(u_2, v_1) \leq f_1^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) \leq \dots \leq f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) \leq f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ and $f_2^+(u_1, v_1) < f_2^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f_2^+(u_2, v_1) < f_2^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$. Therefore, $f^+(u_1, v_1) < f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f^+(u_2, v_1) < f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$.

Case 2. m is even. In this case $u_2 u_j \in E(P_1[m+1])$ is labeled with R (where $j = 3$ if $m = 2$, $j = 4$ if $m > 2$), the ordering of the $2m+2$ sums $f^+(u_1, v_1), f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}), f^+(u_2, v_1), f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}), \dots, f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1), f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ is the same as in case 1, but between vertices (u_2, v_1) and (u_2, v_{n+1}) . Specifically, we have $f_1^+(u_1, v_1) \leq f_1^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) \leq f_1^+(u_2, v_1), f_1^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) \leq f_1^+(u_3, v_1) \leq \dots \leq f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ and $f_2^+(u_1, v_1) < f_2^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f_2^+(u_2, v_1) < f_2^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$. Therefore,

$$f^+(u_1, v_1) < f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f^+(u_2, v_1), f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1}).$$

Since $f^+(u_2, v_1) = f_1^+(u_2, v_1) + f_2^+(u_2, v_1) = (4n+4) + (2n+1) = 6n+5$, and $f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) = f_1^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) + f_2^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) = (2n+4) + (4n-1) = 6n+3$, it follows that $f^+(u_1, v_1) < f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < f^+(u_2, v_1) < \dots < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1) < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$.

Thus, in any of the above two cases, the $2m+2$ sums $f^+(u_1, v_1), f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}), f^+(u_2, v_1), f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}), \dots, f^+(u_{m+1}, v_1), f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ are pairwise distinct, and $f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ is the largest among them. For the other $2t$ sums $f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}), f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+2-2t}), \dots, f^+(u_{m+1}, v_n)$, they are in strict increasing order $f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+2-2t}) < \dots < f^+(u_{m+1}, v_n)$, since $f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) = f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+2-2t}) = \dots = f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_n)$ and $f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+2-2t}) < \dots < f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_n)$.

At this point, the only remained issue is to notice that $f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) > f^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$, since $f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) = f_1^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$ and $f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1-2t}) = a_{s-t} + b_1 \geq (2mn + m + n - 1 - 2t) + (2mn + 2m + 2) \geq 2mn + m + n - 1 - (n - m) + 2mn + 2m + 2 = 4mn + 4m + 1 > 2mn + m + n \geq a_s = f_2^+(u_{m+1}, v_{n+1})$. Hence, the $2m+2t+2$ sums are pairwise distinct. They are all odd numbers since each of them contains exactly one odd label. ■

Combining Claim 3.1 and Claim 3.2, we have proved that the above labeling of $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$ is antimagic, for $n \geq m \geq 2$. Please see Figure 2 as an example of antimagic labeling of $P_1[m+1] \times P_2[n+1]$, for $m = 3, n = 7$.

3.2 $P_1[2] \times P_2[n+1]$ is Antimagic, for $n \geq 1$

Assume that $P_2[n+1]$ has edge set $\{v_i v_{i+2} | i = 1, \dots, n-1\} \cup \{v_n v_{n+1}\}$. For $n = 1$, $P_1[2] \times P_2[2]$ is isomorphic to $C[4]$, hence by Lemma 2.2, it is antimagic. For $n > 1$, label $1, 3, \dots, 2n-1$ to the edges $((u_1, v_1), (u_1, v_3)), ((u_1, v_2), (u_1, v_4)), \dots, ((u_1, v_{n-1}), (u_1, v_{n+1})), ((u_1, v_n), (u_1, v_{n+1}))$, label $2, 4, \dots, 2n$ to the edges $((u_2, v_1), (u_2, v_3)), ((u_2, v_2), (u_2, v_4)), \dots, ((u_2, v_{n-1}), (u_2, v_{n+1})), ((u_2, v_n), (u_2, v_{n+1}))$, and label $2n+1, 2n+2, \dots, 3n+1$ to $((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_1)), ((u_1, v_2), (u_2, v_2)), \dots, ((u_1, v_{n+1}), (u_2, v_{n+1}))$ (see Figure 3).

We will show that the above labeling (for $n > 1$) is antimagic. Since the vertex sums restricted to $P_1[2]$ component satisfy that $f_1^+(u_1, v_1) = f_1^+(u_2, v_1) < f_1^+(u_1, v_2) = f_1^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f_1^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) = f_1^+(u_2, v_{n+1})$ ('=' and '<' alternate), and the vertex sums restricted to $P_2[n+1]$ component are

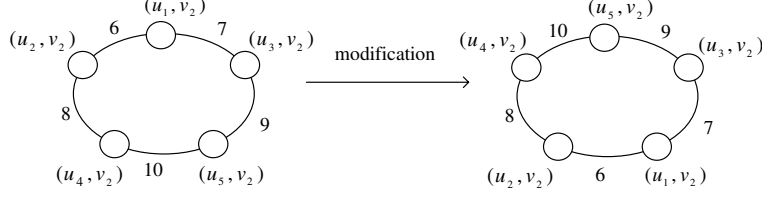


Fig. 4. Modification on the 2nd $C[m]$ component in case n is even, for $m = 5$

$mn + m + 1, mn + m + 2, \dots, mn + 2m,$ (labels for $((u_i, v_1), (u_i, v_3)), i = 1, 2, \dots, m$)
 $mn + 2m + 1, mn + 2m + 2, \dots, mn + 3m,$ (labels for $((u_i, v_2), (u_i, v_4)), i = 1, 2, \dots, m$)
 $\dots\dots\dots$
 $2mn + 1, 2mn + 2, \dots, 2mn + m,$ (labels for $((u_i, v_n), (u_i, v_{n+1})), i = 1, 2, \dots, m$)

If $v_2v_j \in E(P[n+1])$ ($j = 3$ if $n = 2$, $j = 4$ if $n > 2$) is labeled with R (i.e., when n is even), we will take a *modification* process on the 2nd $C[m]$ component (with vertices $(u_1, v_2), (u_2, v_2), \dots, (u_m, v_2)$), which goes as follows. For each $u_iu_j \in E(C[m])$, the edge $((u_i, v_2), (u_j, v_2))$ will be re-labeled with $(3m + 1) - l_0(i, j)$, where $l_0(i, j)$ is the original label assigned to $((u_i, v_2), (u_j, v_2))$ in Phase 1 (i.e., we ‘reverse’ the labeling on the 2nd $C[m]$ component, whose edges will still be labeled with the same set of numbers $\{m + 1, m + 2, \dots, 2m\}$). Then, we rename each vertex (u_i, v_2) as (u_{m+1-i}, v_2) , for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ (see Figure 4).

Let $f_1^+(u, v)$ and $f_2^+(u, v)$ be the vertex sum at $(u, v) \in V(C[m] \times P[n+1])$ restricted to $C[m]$ component and $P[n+1]$ component, respectively. Then, $f^+(u, v) = f_1^+(u, v) + f_2^+(u, v)$ is the vertex sum at (u, v) . It is easy to see that, for the above labeling, independent of the parity of n (i.e., no matter whether there is a modification process or not), the ordering $f_1^+(u_1, v_2) < f_1^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f_1^+(u_m, v_2)$ and $f_2^+(u_1, v_2) < f_2^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f_2^+(u_m, v_2)$ will hold.

Using similar arguments, it is straightforward to prove that for the above labeling we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &f_1^+(u_1, v_1) < f_1^+(u_2, v_1) < \dots < f_1^+(u_m, v_1) < \\
 &f_1^+(u_1, v_2) < f_1^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f_1^+(u_m, v_2) < \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 &f_1^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f_1^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f_1^+(u_m, v_{n+1}),
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &f_2^+(u_1, v_1) \leq f_2^+(u_2, v_1) \leq \dots \leq f_2^+(u_m, v_1) \leq \\
 &f_2^+(u_1, v_2) \leq f_2^+(u_2, v_2) \leq \dots \leq f_2^+(u_m, v_2) \leq \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 &f_2^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) \leq f_2^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) \leq \dots \leq f_2^+(u_m, v_{n+1}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

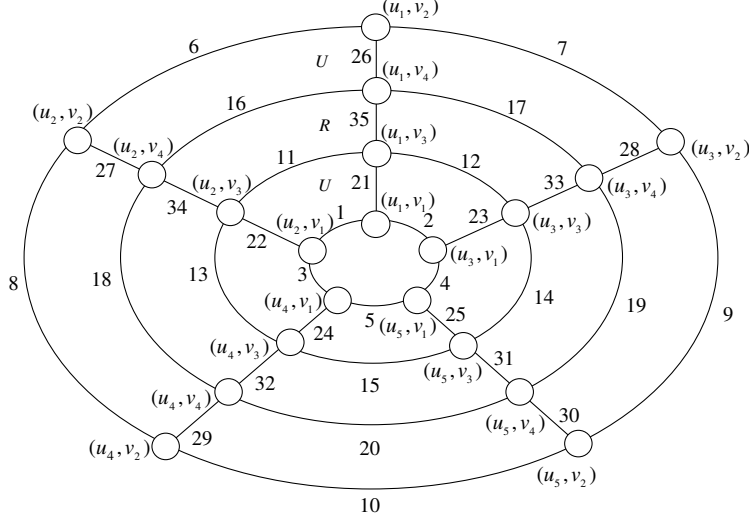


Fig. 5. Antimagic labeling of $C[m] \times P[n+1]$, for $m = 5$, $n = 3$

$$\begin{aligned}
& f^+(u_1, v_1) < f^+(u_2, v_1) < \dots < f^+(u_m, v_1) < \\
& f^+(u_1, v_2) < f^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f^+(u_m, v_2) < \\
& \dots < f^+(u_1, v_{n+1}) < f^+(u_2, v_{n+1}) < \dots < f^+(u_m, v_{n+1}),
\end{aligned}$$

which implies that the above labeling is antimagic. Please see Figure 5 as an example of antimagic labeling of $C[m] \times P[n+1]$, for $m = 5$, $n = 3$. ■

Lemma 4.2 $C[m] \times P[2]$ is antimagic for $m \geq 3$.

Proof: Assume that $C[m]$ has edge set $\{u_1 u_2\} \cup \{u_i u_{i+2} | i = 1, \dots, m-2\} \cup \{u_{m-1} u_m\}$. Label $1, 3, \dots, 2m-1$ to the edges $((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_1)), ((u_1, v_1), (u_3, v_1)), \dots, ((u_{m-2}, v_1), (u_m, v_1)), ((u_{m-1}, v_1), (u_m, v_1))$, label $2, 4, \dots, 2m$ to the edges $((u_1, v_2), (u_2, v_2)), ((u_1, v_2), (u_3, v_2)), \dots, ((u_{m-2}, v_2), (u_m, v_2)), ((u_{m-1}, v_2), (u_m, v_2))$, and label $2m+1, 2m+2, \dots, 3m$ to the edges $((u_1, v_1), (u_1, v_2)), ((u_2, v_1), (u_2, v_2)), \dots, ((u_m, v_1), (u_m, v_2))$ (see Figure 6).

We will show that the above labeling ($m \geq 3$) is antimagic. Since the vertex sums restricted to $C[m]$ component are

$$f_1^+(u_i, v_1) = \begin{cases} 4 & i = 1; \\ 4i - 2 & i = 2, \dots, m-1; \\ 4m - 4 & i = m; \end{cases} \quad f_1^+(u_i, v_2) = \begin{cases} 6 & i = 1; \\ 4i & i = 2, \dots, m-1; \\ 4m - 2 & i = m. \end{cases}$$

It follows that $f_1^+(u_1, v_1) < f_1^+(u_1, v_2) = f_1^+(u_2, v_1) < \dots < f_1^+(u_{m-1}, v_2) = f_1^+(u_m, v_1) < f_1^+(u_m, v_2)$ (there are two equalities). In addition, $f_2^+(u_1, v_1) = f_2^+(u_1, v_2) < f_2^+(u_2, v_1) = f_2^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f_2^+(u_m, v_1) = f_2^+(u_m, v_2)$ ('=' and '<' alternate). Therefore, $f^+(u_1, v_1) < f^+(u_1, v_2) <$

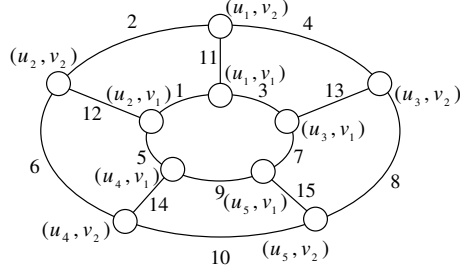


Fig. 6. Antimagic labeling of $C[m] \times P[2]$, for $m = 5$

$f^+(u_2, v_1) < f^+(u_2, v_2) < \dots < f^+(u_m, v_1) < f^+(u_m, v_2)$, implying the antimagicness of the above labeling. ■

Combining Lemma 4.1 and Lemma 4.2, we have proved Theorem 1.2.

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